

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES

Date: May 26, 2014

Time: 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Location: Room 319, Mackenzie Chown, Block D, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. Welcome

Harriet Sonne de Torrens welcomed everyone and noted that the past year has been a foundational year for CAPAL. A lot has been accomplished including a report written to the Royal Society of Canada Expert Panel in response to the closure of federal science libraries and status and future of LAC; CAPAL also issued a statement recognizing and supporting concerns raised by the Saskatchewan Law Library Association regarding the potential closure of the law library at the University of Saskatchewan; we set up a website, registered as a non-profit organization, started to organize committees, and became a member of IFLA.

3. Ratification of CAPAL Constitution

On June 18th CAPAL's constitution will be one year and there are legal requirements to have the constitution approved. Motion passed that the constitution be approved.

A Special Committee of the Constitution will be set up to review the Constitution and obtain from the CAPAL membership and Steering Committee needed revisions. Revisions are to be presented for member approval at the 2015 AGM.

4. Election of Officers

a. Steering Committee

Time is required to plan and establish elections for the official positions in CAPAL as per the Constitution. The first year has been spent incorporating, setting up a website, Facebook, Twitter presence, and our own membership website, as well as, organizing our first national congress. In order to structure and fairly represent the membership, the Steering Committee moved to fulfill the responsibilities of an *INTERIM GOVERNING BOARD* for one year. Motion passed.

b. The following members volunteered to fill committee vacancies:

Budget and Finance Committee

Elizabeth Marshall (Western)

Leona Jacobs (Lethbridge)

Communications Committee

Colleen Burgess (Student)

Diversity and Equity Committee

Camille Callison (Manitoba)

Michael Dudley (Winnipeg)

Betty Braaksma (Brandon) David

Eden (Toronto)

Pat Serafini (OISE, Toronto)

Education and Professional Development Committee

Amanda Power (Memorial)

Marnie Harrington, (Western)

Pamela Harrison (McGill)

Nikki Tummon (McGill)

Julie Jones (McGill)

Rhiannon Jones (Calgary)

Membership Committee

Cynthia Williamson (Chair), (Mohawk College)

Publications

Kristin Hoffmann (Western) (Chair)

Jennifer Dekker (Ottawa)

Monica Fazekas (Western)

Michael Dudley (Winnipeg)

Research and Scholar hip Committee

Virginia Wilson (Saskatchewan) Ravit

David (Toronto)

Camille Callison (Manitoba)

Michael White (Queens)

Student Committee

Mark Weiler (until Dec. 31, 2014) (Western)

Special Committee on the Constitution

Michael Dudley (Winnipeg)

Betty Braaksma (Brandon)

Leona Jacobs (Lethbridge)

Eva Revitt (MacEwan)

c. Nominating Committee

No one volunteered for the nominating committee. Steering Committee moved to have membership permission to proceed to seek out and engage interested members to take on the leadership roles needed for any vacant positions following the AGM. Motion passed.

5. Report from Advocacy Committee

Eva Revitt volunteered to Chair the Committee. 39 members have expressed interest in advocacy issues. A survey was sent out to the 39 to determine advocacy priorities. Three issues emerged: de-professionalization, library governance/library councils and faculty/academic status.

Interested members met on May 25 over lunch to discuss a potential structure of an Advocacy Committee and 4 Special Interest Groups dedicated to exploring the three mentioned issues as well as the impact and role of assessment frameworks on the profession. The goal is to have the Special Interest Groups produce data (open access), white papers, and position statements for membership approval at the 2015 AGM. Each Special Interest Group will be led by a principle investigator whose role will be to organize meetings, facilitate discussion and provide overall direction to the research and development of informed opinions/positions. Eva will be sending an invitation to all CAPAL members to volunteer and participate.

Comment from the floor -- suggestion to rename the de-professionalization to professional practice. De-professionalization is a negative term. Suggestion will be forwarded to the Special Interest Group for consideration.

Question from the floor -- there seems to be overlap between the Research and Scholarship Committee and the work that the Special Interest Groups may be doing. How will these overlaps be worked out? The goal of the SIGs will be to develop position statements. Not sure how the Research Committee will unfold yet, it is a very organic process at the moment.

Question from the floor -- are members automatically added to the Advocacy listserv when they join? Yes, members are automatically added when they select advocacy as an area of interest. If current members want to be added, they should contact Eva Revitt, revitte@macewan.ca or Doug Fox, douglas.fox@utoronto.ca

Report with proposed advocacy structure was approved.

6. Report from Student Committee

The student chapter at Western has done a lot of workshops and skills development events. The chapter promotes CAPAL and has developed a collective agreement database. The Student Committee is trying to start chapters at all iSchools. Dalhousie is in process of launching a 2nd student chapter! Ambassadors are needed at each school - for students to go to as a resource person. Students have a hard time understanding what CAPAL is. It would be very helpful for CAPAL members to attend an orientation sessions with LIS students and suggest to the students that they start a CAPAL chapter, talk about CAPAL, welcome them in. The Student Committee can provide support. The Committee is also working on setting up a "virtual lunch with librarian"

as an endorsement from CAPAL librarians on what CAPA is / does and to encourage students to participate.

7. Membership Report

We have 145 members and we are growing on a monthly basis. Our finances are doing well. We have a little bit of money, about \$4,000 – \$5,000. 2015 Congress membership will be around \$2,200

There will be work on the webpage over the summer. We haven't had a strategic plan for our web presence and it's becoming cumbersome. Also newly formed committees are to need space on the website.

8. Closing Remarks by Harriet Sonne de Torrens

Our next AGM will be at the 2015 Congress in Ottawa. Our committees are getting off the ground. Kristin Hoffmann is coming on board June 1 to Chair and start the Publishing Committee. Publishing the conference proceedings will be one of the priorities. We had some conversations with University of Toronto to host CAPAL's publication in OJS. There was a separate committee for organizing the 2014 CAPAL conference, and we'll likely be striking another organizing committee for 2015. This committee will start its work in August. The focus for the Steering Committee for the next year will be how to keep up communication and sharing information between committees and with members. CAPAL is distinct but want to work with other associations. Harriet introduced members of the Steering Committee with a special thanks to Juliya Borie, who does all of our translations and Doug Fox for his work on the website and managing our listservs.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Dekker
Eva Revitt

